



**MEDIA ADVISORY
FROM
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For Immediate Release

New Museums Allocated to Secretary of State Museum Program

Baton Rouge - Secretary of State W. Fox McKeithen announces that the 2003 Louisiana Legislature has placed three new museums under the supervision of the Secretary of State's office. With the recent additions, the Department of State now oversees 12 museums statewide. The new museums added to the Secretary of State's Office are:

Louisiana Military Museum

The Louisiana Military Museum, located in Ruston, commemorates the efforts of all citizens of the Louisiana who have served in the armed forces. The museum houses a vast collection of memorabilia, artifacts, historical data and exhibits spanning all wars, from the American Revolution through the Gulf War.

Mansfield Women's College

The Huckaby and Calhoun families of Sabine Parish have donated the property and grounds that previously housed the Mansfield Women's College, the oldest women's college west of the Mississippi River. This museum is still in the development stage, but the goal of the museum will be to commemorate achievements of women in education, particularly at the Mansfield site.

Tioga Heritage Museum and Park

The Tioga Heritage Museum and Park, in Rapides Parish, is located at the old commissary building adjacent to the railroad tracks in Tioga. The building will be a museum

and community center. The adjacent acreage will be used to establish a walking tour of outdoor exhibits and picnic area.

“We’re excited to have these new additions to our museum program,” says Secretary McKeithen, “We’ve had great success establishing programs at the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum and even building museums from the ground up like the Old State Capitol and the Delta Music Museum. These three facilities give us another opportunity to create something special for the people of Louisiana.”

For more information on the Secretary of State Museum Program, contact Scott Madere, the Public Information Officer of the Secretary of State’s Office at (225) 922-2880 or visit the Secretary of State’s website: www.sec.state.la.us .

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